August 23, 1992
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RE: L.Fletcher Prouty & The Secret Team

Dear Editor:

It is with great displeasure that I find it is necessary to write this letter but the message within must reach as wide an audience as possible. It is a difficult task that befalls me for how am I to explain to my fellow researchers that they might be unwittingly financially supporting a virulent neo-nazi organization whose raison d'etre is to argue that the deliberate killing of six million Jews by the nazis in World War Two never occurred. How do I explain to all of your readers that a man highly respected by the research community is helping promote those ideals?

I can only conclude that the truth is my best course and the truth is that L. Fletcher Prouty, author of the acclaimed book The Secret Team, has aligned himself with an anti-semitic revisionist organization known as ***The Institute for Historical Review*** (IHR). It is the IHR that has recently republished Colonel Prouty's much sought after 1973 work on the CIA's control of world events. If you have purchased the latest edition of The Secret Team then you have, most likely unknowingly, enabled the IHR to continue its attempts to deface history and slander the memories of all those who died at the hands of the diabolical and twisted nazi regime.

IHR was formally established in the 1970s with help from Willis Carto's organization Liberty Lobby, a far-right anti-semitic propaganda clearing house duly noted as such by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia. Your readers more than likely recognize the name Liberty Lobby from the recent best seller, Plausible Denial. The author, Mark

Lane, a preeminent contributor among assassination experts, has defended the organization in various law suits, written articles for its newspaper "*Spotlight*", appeared on its radio broadcasts and served as an associate editor for one of its publications. However, the subject of Mr. Lane's involvement with nazis is a topic best left to another time.

IHR is primarily a revisionist organization. That is, its purpose is to propagate the theory that the Holocaust is but a myth or a hoax. As a publicity stunt IHR offered $50,000 to anyone who could prove that Jews were gassed at the nazi death camp Auschwitz. An Auschwitz survivor, who accepted their challenge, was refused the "prize money" and took them to court in 1985 and eventually received $90,000 in damages. In that case the Court took judicial notice that the Holocaust was in no way a myth but instead had been a frightening part of our reality.

Unfortunately, this has not slowed IHR's efforts to publicize their beliefs. Most recently their handiwork has generated national media attention with their attempts to place advertisements in college newspapers across the United States that argue the Holocaust was a creation of Jewish sympathizers. Principal among IHR's vast array of Holocaust-denying, pro-nazi and anti-Israel publications are such works as: Arthur Butz's, The Hoax of the Twentieth Century; William Grimstead's The Six Million Reconsidered; Wilhelm Staeglich's The Auschwitz Myth: A Judge Looks at the Evidence; and Deitleib Felderer's, Anne Frank's Diary--A Hoax. These are the authors and publications that Mr. Prouty has chosen to associate himself with in order to have the Secret Team reach your hands.

The Colonel's association was, in fact, nearly a serious problem for Oliver Stone as Mr. Prouty had been hired as an advisor for the film *JFK*. Prouty, as reported in Esquire Magazine's November 1991 edition, had been a featured speaker at Liberty Lobby's annual convention; contributed to its national radio program and newsletter and even went as far as serving as a member of its national policy advisory board. Of Liberty Lobby's founder, Willis Carto, who frequently expresses admiration for Hitler and espouses that Jews are "public enemy number one", the article quotes Prouty as stating that Carto is "a very sincere and well-educated man," and *"I want to be for the things he's for."*

Colonel Prouty pleaded ignorance when confronted with the history behind Liberty Lobby; an unusual statement considering Mr. Prouty's experience and knowledge of intelligence activities, information and resources throughout the world. Such history included the fact that one of his fellow board members had once been the leader of the Mississippi Klu

Klux Klan and that the organization had helped nominate David Duke for President in 1988. In the end Stone turned a blind cheek to Prouty's involvement, but nevertheless Mr. Prouty still allowed and obviously supported the decision to republish his work under the guise of IHR's press. This time, however, Mr. Prouty can not plead ignorance.

This letter is in no way a personal attack on Mr. Prouty nor, I assure you, am I involved in any government conspiracy to sequester the truth surrounding the assassination of our late President. I have met with L. Fletcher Prouty and I like the man. I respect the man for the work he has accomplished and his desire to seek the truth. But I can not condone the fact he allowed IHR to publish an important piece of assassination literature nor will I ever respect his decision or his involvement in their activities. The publication of The Secret Team by IHR legitimatizes their existence by allowing them to encroach upon legitimate controversial topics such as President Kennedy's assassination.

It is certainly your right to purchase this particular edition of Mr. Prouty's work just as it is the right of bookdealers to offer it for sale. In these times where assassination literature is highly sought after and the economy is so depressed, it is difficult to advise others on this dilemma. Yet is there not a time when principals must win over pennies? Is there not a time when a person must decide that malicious proponents of hatred and prejudice no longer belong in our society? I certainly do not believe that the type of society promoted by IHR is one John Fitzgerald Kennedy would have wished for us had he lived.

Mr. Prouty could have chosen to republish his work elsewhere particularly in this time when the market is so demanding of his work. Even self-publication has now been proven a realistic option when the subject is November 22, 1963. However, he chose not to. Thus, the choice of whether you wish to financially contribute to the IHR now falls upon you and you alone. You now know the story behind the publisher of The Secret Team. All I ask is for you to consider the words I have written above before you make that choice.

Sincerely,

/s/

Mark S. Zaid